

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A magnetic recording medium, comprising:
a substrate,
at least one undercoating layer formed on the substrate, and
a magnetic recording layer which is formed on the undercoating layer and includes a magnetic crystal grains and a grain boundary field which encloses the magnetic crystal grain;
wherein
the grain boundary field includes Ti oxides, and the ratio of the substance amount of the Ti oxides in the magnetic recording layer is 5 mol % or more and 15 mol % or less,
the Ti oxides comprise TiO_2 wherein the ratio of the TiO_2 component in the Ti oxides is ~~90 mol% or less~~ 40 to 60 mol %, and
the Ti oxides further comprises TiO and/or Ti_2O_3 .
2. (canceled).
3. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the magnetic crystal grain comprises Pt and Cr in addition to Co as a main component; and an orientation of a magnetic easy axis of the grain is perpendicular to the substrate.

4. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein at least one layer contained in the undercoating layer comprises nonmagnetic crystal grains which contain at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ru, Rh, Pt, and Pd as a main component.

5. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the undercoating layer comprises: nonmagnetic crystal grains, which contains at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ru, Rh, Pt, and Pd as a main component; and a grain boundary field, which encloses the nonmagnetic crystal grains and includes an oxide of at least one element selected from the group consisting of Si, Cr, and Ti.

6. (previously presented): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the undercoating layer contains an oxide and the ratio of the substance amount of the oxide in the undercoating layer is 1 mol % or more and 15 mol % or less.

7. (previously presented): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the undercoating layer contains an oxide and the oxide contained in the undercoating layer is Ti oxide, and the Ti oxide comprises at least one of TiO and Ti₂O₃.

8. (previously presented): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the undercoating layer contains Ti oxide and the undercoating layer comprises TiO₂ as at least one Ti oxide, and the ratio of the TiO₂ in the Ti oxide is 90 mol % or less.

9. (withdrawn-currently amended): A manufacturing method for producing a magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, comprising the steps of:

preparing a substrate on which an undercoating layer is formed; and

vapor-depositing a material for magnetic crystal grains and a material comprising at least one of TiO and Ti₂O₃ to form a magnetic recording layer which includes magnetic crystal grains and a grain boundary field, which encloses the magnetic crystal grains.

10 and 11. (canceled).

12. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method for a magnetic recording medium according to claim 9, wherein the magnetic crystal grains in the magnetic recording layer comprise Pt and Cr in addition to Co as a main component; and an orientation of a magnetic easy axis of the grain is perpendicular to the substrate.

13. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method for a magnetic recording medium according to claim 9, wherein at least one layer contained in the undercoating layer includes nonmagnetic crystal grains which contain at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ru, Rh, Pt, and Pd as a main component.

14. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method for a magnetic recording medium according to claim 9, wherein at least one layer contained in the undercoating layer comprises: nonmagnetic crystal grains, which contains at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ru, Rh, Pt, and Pd as a main component; and a grain boundary field, which

encloses the nonmagnetic crystal grains and includes an oxide of at least one element selected from the group consisting of Si, Cr, and T.

15. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method of a magnetic recording medium according to claim 9, wherein the ratio of the substance amount of the oxide in the undercoating layer is 1 mol % or more and 15 mol % or less.

16. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method of a magnetic recording medium according to claim 9, wherein the oxide contained in the undercoating layer is Ti oxide, and the Ti oxide comprises at least one of TiO and Ti₂O₃.

17. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method of a magnetic recording medium according to claim 9, wherein the oxide contained in the undercoating layer comprises TiO₂ as at least one of the Ti oxide, and the ratio of the TiO₂ component in the Ti oxide is 90 mol % or less.

18. (original): A magnetic read and write apparatus comprising a read and write head and the magnetic recording medium according to claim 1.

19. (original): The magnetic read and write apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the read and write head is a single pole type recording head.

20. (canceled).